SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—The Chief Engineer will be asked to report on the development of communications in the Thodupuzha taluk, with special reference to the suggestions of the Member.

93. The need for a bridge at the south ferry of the Alwaye river.

Mr. P. K. Nilakantan Elayathu (Member, Alengad taluk) said that the town of Alwaye was rising in importance and was a sanitorium. It attracted a great many people on the occasion of the Sivaratri and in the hot season. The Police station, Post and Anchal offices, Executive Engineer's office, Excise offices, Railway station, schools and the market were all on one side of the Alwaye river, while, on the other, there were the Taluk Cutcherry, the Treasury, the Magistrate's Court, the Sub-Registrar's office, &c. The difficulties experienced by the people in crossing and recrossing the river were indescribable. In the monsoons there was very great danger in crossing the river ; but even the school children could not avoid it then and accidents were not uncommon. During his visit to the taluk in Edavam last, the Dewan himself would have personally experienced the difficulties. If a bridge were constructed on a narrow part of the river near the south ferry, all the inconveniences would be removed, and it would also tend to establish a through line of communication with Parur on the one side and Kunnathnad, Moovattupuzha and other taluks on the other and increase the importance and the usefulness of the Alwaye town. He therefore requested the early construction of a bridge at the ferry.

Dewan's reply.—The Chief Engineer will be asked to investigate the matter.

94. Local needs of the Parur taluk.

Mr. A. Govinda Menon, B. A. (Member, Parur taluk) said—

(*a*) that his proposals under roads were the following :—

(1) that the cartable road from Chathanad to Kuriappalli *via* Parur, already sanctioned, be constructed without delay ;

(2) that the roads from Parur to Edappalli, Peruvaram to Mannam, and Peruvaram to Chennamangalam, be made cartable, and that a bridge be constructed at the Chennamangalam crossing ;

(3) that a road to Munambom from Alanthuruthu *via* Machanthuruthu and Kunjithie be constructed as a branch road to the Chathanad-Kuriapalli road ; and

(4) that a cartable road be constructed from Kannankulangara to Chakkarakadavu ferry.

(*b*) In regard to the construction of the new hospital building, he said that, when he represented the matter last year, he was informed that the plan and estimate had been sanctioned ; but he regretted that the work was not started.

Dewan.—For want of funds the work has been allowed to lie over till 1089.

(*c*) The Member next requested that the Parur—Cheriyapalli canal should be deepened and made navigable through-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

SUBJECTS.

out the year. The allotment now sanctioned for it was quite insufficient.

Dewan.—The Chief Engineer promises to keep it open.

(*d*) The Member then submitted for the consideration of the Government the desirability, in the interests alike of the ryots and the Government, of opening a canal from the eastern side of the Parur Reclamation Bund through Kottuvalli to the Cheriyapalli river. He said that, of the whole area of land within the Parur bund, a portion alone had been assessed, but much of it remained uncultivated for want of convenience to the ryots to convey earth to raise the land with. The proposed channel went over high ground and it would afford convenience in all respects. If that were cut, it would not only bring under cultivation the balance of the assessed area, but also make it possible in the future to assess the unassessed area also. The total distance to be cut through was at the most 1½ miles, for which the cost was estimated at Rs. 32,000. He said that, for the present, it was enough if half a mile from where the existing channel ended were cut. He therefore requested that the work might be ordered to be taken in hand without delay.

(*e*) He next said that the Parur bund was not being properly maintained now and that the people would be willing to see to it, if the bund were handed over to them. It would also be a good thing if cocoanut cultivation on the area near the bund could be permitted. Some portions had already been planted but the Public Works Department would not allow it to be done.

Dewan's reply.—The representations of the Member are noted. The Member will do well to accompany the Chief Engineer when he next visits the taluk and show him the site of the proposed canal from the Parur bund to the Cheriyapalli river.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-15 P. M.

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